(b) if so, the states taken to enhance the allocation of LPG to the State; and

(c) the details of the LPG allocation originally proposed to be made and subsequently enhanced for the State during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) The demand of the existing consumers of LPG in Gujarat, who are enrolled with the distributors of public sector oil companies, is by and large being met in full. Temporary backlogs that may arise are cleared by augmenting LPG supplies through operation of bottling plants for extended hours and on holidays and by arranging supplies from bottling plants in adjoining areas. LPG is not an allocated product and no advance allocation is made.

**Introduction of Five Year Tax Holiday Scheme**

446. SHRI RAJU BHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Railways have sought application of the Five Year Tax Holiday Scheme as applicable to various transport sector projects like the ports and highways; and

(b) if so, what precise decision has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the Finance Bill, 1995, the five-year tax holiday scheme has been made applicable to investments in Railways also.

**Food Processing Industries in Punjab**

447. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of Food Processing Industries in the State of Punjab; Industry-wise;

(b) what is the number of employees working in these industries;

(c) what is the production capacity of each industry;

(d) whether Government are granting any assistance or loan facility to start a new food processing industry in the Punjab under the new Economic Policy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c) Food Processing Industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors. Information with respect to all food processing units State-wise is not maintained by this Ministry. However, as per the Annual Survey of Industries for 1991-92, there were 69 units in the factory sector in the State of Punjab employing 7079 persons and the value of total output of these units was Rs. 441 crores. Similarly, as per the All India Census of Small Scale units registered upto 31st March, 1988, there were 4156 units in the State of Punjab employing 21502 persons and the value of total output of these units was Rs. 583.64 crores.

(b) to (e) The Ministry under its Plan schemes extends financial assistance to State Government organisations/cooperatives/voluntary organisations, etc. for setting up/expansion/modernisation of food processing units.

**Fire in the forests of UP and HP**

448. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the forests in Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh have been on fire for long period this year destroying thousands of hectares of forest land;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such devastating fires in forests and the effect

thereof on the animals living in those forests and the forest properties; and

(c) the details of measures taken to check such fires in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The forests in the Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh Hills were affected by forest fires during the months of May-June 1995. As per reports received from the state 931 Sq. Kms of forests were affected by fires in Up and 305 Sq. Kms in HP.

(b) and (c) The main reason for the extensive forest fires was the long dry spell and high temperatures. The people living in the adjoining areas also set fire to the dried pine needles in the chir forests to get fresh crop of grass for their cattles. Slash burning in the agricultural fields also is the cause of spread of fire into the forest areas. A two member committee has been constituted to enquire into the cause of the forest fire and the extent of damage to forest wealth. The Committee will also formulate a strategy to prevent occurrance of Such forest fires in future. The committee will submit its report within a month.

12.00 Noon

**The Deputy Chairman** *in the Chair*

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**(i) Vohra Committee Report**
**(ii) Notification of the Ministry of Home Affairs**

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): Madam I lay on the table—

(1) A copy (in Hindi) of the Vohra Committee Report.

(2) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Home Affairs Notification G.S.R. No. 538 (E), dated the 6th July, 1995, publishing the Governors (Allowances and Privileges) (Amendment) Rules, 1995, under sub-section (3) of Section 13 of the Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982. [(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-7965/95 for (1) and (2)]

Madam, I would like to take the House into confidence about the Vohra Committee Report. There is a discrepancy...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hindi copy.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Both in Hindi and in English, there is a slight discrepancy, might be a typographical error. I have got the original with me, I have got the copies also with me. The discrepancy is, after paragraph 3.7, the next paragraph should be numbered as 4. Instead of 4, the paragraph has been marked as 6. So, kindly don't try to read any meaning into it. That is why I wanted to take the entire House into confidence, while placing it on the Table of the House, that this kind of a discrepancy has crept in. And if any hon. Members are interested, I am prepared to show them the original. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सत्यप्रकाश मालवीय (उत्तर प्रदेश): इस पर चर्चा कब होगी? (व्यवधान)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Andhra Pradesh) Madam, we are reliably told that the report is incomplete. It does not contain annexure which run into many pages, which contain many ... ..*(Interruptions)*..

प्रो॰ विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दिल्ली): 100 पेज की रिपोर्ट 12 पेज की कैसे बन गई? (व्यवधान)

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय: कब चर्चा करेंगे? (व्यवधान)

**Notification of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Ports Wing)**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Madam, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of Section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963, a copy each (in